



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# News Release

Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture  
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U.S. July 1 Cattle Inventory Down Slightly

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All cattle and calves in the United States as of July 1, 2008, totaled 104.3 million head, slightly below the 104.8 million on July 1, 2007 and down 1 percent from the 105.2 million two years ago.

All cows and heifers that have calved, at 42.4 million, was down slightly from both July 1, 2007 and July 1, 2006.

- \* Beef cows, at 33.2 million, were down 1 percent from July 1, 2007 and 1 percent below two years ago.
- \* Milk cows, at 9.25 million, were up 1 percent from July 1, 2007 and 1 percent above two years ago.

Other class estimates on July 1, 2008 and the changes from July 1, 2007, are as follows:

- \* All heifers 500 pounds and over, 16.5 million, down 1 percent.
- \* Beef replacement heifers, 4.6 million, down 2 percent.
- \* Milk replacement heifers, 3.9 million, unchanged.
- \* Other heifers, 8.0 million, unchanged.
- \* Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 14.7 million, down 1 percent.
- \* Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.1 million, unchanged.
- \* Calves under 500 pounds, 28.6 million, down slightly.
- \* All cattle and calves on feed for slaughter, 11.7 million, down 5 percent.

The 2008 calf crop is expected to be 37.3 million, down slightly from 2007 and 1 percent below 2006. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 27.1 million, down slightly from 2007 and 1 percent below 2006.

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